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Title : Need to amend the existing hydro policy to have uniform provisions and apply it to all hydro projects in Jammu & Kashmir.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (UDHAMPUR): For development/construction of any Hydro Project, a lot of distress is caused to the local inhabitants of the area due to variety of reasons like displacement, submergence, etc. But only the developer and home State are the beneficiaries from these projects and not the local inhabitants.

Keeping in view development of the local area, Government issued New Hydro Policy, 2008. A provision has been made to provide an additional 1% free power from the project earmarked for Local Area Development Fund. A provision for 1% matching share by host State Government has also been made from their share of 12% free power towards this corpus. But uniform provision is not available and applicable in all projects including those already in existence in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

I urge upon the Government to amend the existing Hydro Policy to ensure uniform application of provisions to all Hydro Projects in the State of Jammu & Kashmir, including Salal Hydro Electric Power Project, Dewa, Dulhasti and Baglihar Projects in the light of New Hydro Policy 2008.